

Information for Groups 2019

Sizergh Castle & Garden, Kendal, Cumbria, LA8 8AE.

Thank you for your interest in Sizergh. Before you complete the booking form, please take a few minutes to read the following information. Please note that your visit is only confirmed once we have acknowledged that we have received your completed booking form and said we can accommodate your visit details.

Unless we have agreed the date of your visit already, please suggest several dates on your booking form. If you are not able to return your form promptly, please contact us again, before sending it, to check that your chosen date is still free.

There are certain dates during the year (including all bank holiday weekends, and weekends during school holidays), when we are not able to accommodate visits by groups.

House Opening: Saturday 16 March to Sunday 27 October, Tuesday to Sunday, 12 noon to 16.00 (last entry 15.30). HOUSE CLOSED ON MONDAYS (apart from Bank Hols)

Garden, Shop and Cafe Opening: Saturday 19 January – Friday 15 March 10.00-16.00, Saturday 16 March - Sunday 27 October 10.00 – 17.00, 7 days per week.

In addition to the above dates and times, the Café, Shop and Garden will be open with restricted times over the winter months. Please contact us for further details.

Admission Prices and Payment

House & Garden: adult £11.50, child £5.75

Garden: adult £7.50, child £3.75

These are the rates for pre-booked groups of a minimum of fifteen people. For this to be applicable, fees must be made as one payment on the day of your visit. Payment can be made by cash, debit or credit card. Payment by invoice *may* be possible if your group is making purchases amounting to over £1,000 per year.

We recommend that you allow at least 45 - 60 minutes to view the house, and similar for the garden. **We regret that we cannot offer tours of the house to groups due to the small size of some of the rooms and subsequent disruption to other visitors.** Full colour guidebooks are available from the reception, shop and house.

ACCESS

- Level access is available to two show rooms. There is a wheelchair for use on the first floor, although visitors must be able to ascend and descend 26 steps from the ground to first floor. As there is no level access from the first floor, visitors need to be able to descend by the same route. There are 18 steps from first to second floor up a curved staircase, and a further 14 steps up and 5 down to reach the top of the house. Exit is either down a 35 step spiral staircase or via the ascent route.
- A virtual tour is situated on both the ground floor of the house and in the visitor reception building.
- Café, shop, reception and toilets are fully accessible.
- The garden is mainly gravel and grass most of which can be accessed in a wheelchair or mobility scooter. Wheelchairs and a mobility scooter are available for visitors' use and a recommended route is detailed in our welcome leaflet. Our wheelchairs and mobility scooter should be pre-booked. If anyone in the party intends to bring their own wheelchair or mobility scooter, please ask for further advice in advance about suitability for use in our grounds.

- There is an induction loop at all till points. Short guides and room sheets are both available in large print, and short guides are also available in Braille. Visitors with visual difficulties are welcome to touch some of the items in the house. Please let us know if required.

CAFÉ (Located beside the car park)

The café serves food and drink all day. We offer a selection of delicious cakes and scones, freshly made sandwiches, soups and snacks, with hot food between 12 noon and 14.00. **Please let us know if your group will be having lunch and/or refreshments in the café as this would greatly help us to plan for your visit.**

Please note: We regret that our café is unable to take bookings for lunch. We endeavour to serve people as quickly as possible but visitors should be aware that, particularly at busy times, there can be a queue and we would appreciate your patience.

On the day of your visit...

❖ ARRIVAL

When you are approximately 10 minutes' drive away please ring our reception team on **(015395 69818)**. Please let us have the exact breakdown of your group numbers, i.e. how many National Trust members, National Trust for Scotland members & non-members you have in your party. Please ensure that NT and NTS members have their cards ready so we can scan these while you are on the coach.

It would also help us to know how many wish to visit the House & Garden, and how many the Garden only.

All this information makes it easier for the visitor reception team to greet your group quickly and efficiently.

A member of the reception staff will provide a short on-coach welcome to your group.

❖ COACHES

Our entrance gates are **3 metres 15 cm wide**. Post code for Sat Nav is **LA8 8DZ**. Please pass this information on to your coach company.

The speed limit around the car park is **5 m.p.h**, please ensure all drivers are aware of this. As our car park is small, it is our policy to ask coaches to drop off passengers at the visitor building and then park just outside our main entrance gates. During our low season (Nov-Feb), it may be possible for us to provide coach parking within the car park.

❖ BOOKING

If you wish to make a booking, please complete the information on the booking form as fully as possible (final numbers can be confirmed nearer your visit date) and return to:

Business Support, Estate Office, National Trust, Sizergh Castle, Kendal, Cumbria, LA8 8AE.
Tel: 015395 60951 Email: sizergh@nationaltrust.org.uk

- You may wish to phone Sizergh a week or so before your visit to ensure that your booking details are correct
- Please inform us if there is a sizeable change in numbers, or if your expected arrival time differs from your booking form.

We look forward to welcoming your group to Sizergh Estate and hope that you enjoy your visit.